sharing intelligence, providing Central Para-Miliary Forces on specific request, and by providing funds for modernisation and upgradation of the policing and infrastructure. The Rapid Action Force has been created exclusively to deal with communal violence.

The Government is committed to safeguarding the interests of minorities and bringing to book the perpetrators of violence against them.

Declaration of assets by Ministers

24.┌ . SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced that each Minister will declare his assets after assuming office;

(b) if so, how many Ministers have declared their assets and the details thereof; and

25.┌ . Iwhat steps are being taken to get these information from all the Ministers in the Cabinet? ,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Code of Conduct for Ministers provides for furnishing of a declaration by each Minister regarding his assets and liabilities. The contents of the Code have been brought to the notice of the members of the present Council of Ministers.

The statements of assets and liabilities have been received from 17 Ministers. Others have been reminded to expedite the same.

'Exploration of minerals in Maharashtra

26.┌ . SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines and MECL have carried out surveys and exploration of minerals in Maharashtra during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details of the work carried out by these organisations in Maharashtra;

(c) the details of action taken for exploration of- mineral resources of Maharashtra during the past three years, investment made and proposed during the current year and next five years both in public and private sectors; and